



Government Toolkit: Indicator 1.1.1

Student Handout: Government: Indicator 1.1.1

Goal 1.0 Political Systems

Expectation 1.1 The student will demonstrate understanding of the structure and functions of government and politics in the United States.

Indicator 1.1.1 The student will analyze historic documents to determine the basic principles of United States government and apply them to real-world situations.

Assessment Limits:

Documents: Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. Students are to know which rights/protections are addressed by the first ten amendments. Students are not expected to know the contents of any document by number.

Other documents and amendments may be used to assess the principles, but information will be provided.

Basic principles: federalism, separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial review, representative democracy, limited government, rule of law, individual rights and responsibilities, consent of the governed, majority rule, popular sovereignty, equal protection.

Public Release - Selected Response Item - Released in 2013

Government Indicator 1.1.1

Read the excerpt below.

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution... are reserved to the States... or to the people...."

— Article 3, Maryland Declaration of Rights

Which of these principles of government is described in the excerpt?

- A. Citizens elect representatives in government to make laws.
- B. Each branch of government has different responsibilities.
- C. State governments exist at the will of the federal government.
- D. Powers are divided among different levels of government.

Correct Answer

- D. Powers are divided among different levels of government.

Item

Read the excerpt below.

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution... are reserved to the States... or to the people...."

— *Article 3, Maryland Declaration of Rights*

Which of these principles of government is described in the excerpt?

- A. Citizens elect representatives in government to make laws.
- B. Each branch of government has different responsibilities.
- C. State governments exist at the will of the federal government.
- D. Powers are divided among different levels of government.